

Message Text

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11

ACTION EA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-01 INR-05 L-02

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 DPW-01 AID-05 /059 W
----- 072306

R 160415Z DEC 74

FM AMEMBASSY SAIGON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1108

INFO USDEL JEC PARIS

COMUSSAG NKP THAILAND

CINCPAC HONOLULU HI

COMIPAC HONOLULU HI

C O N F I D E N T I A L SAIGON 15452

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MOPS, VS

SUBJECT: SITUATION IN TAY NINH AND IN HOAI DUC AREAS

FOLLOWING SENT ACTION AMEMBASSY SAIGON INFO USDAO SAIGON 13 DEC 74
REPEATED FOR YOUR INFO

QUOTE BIEN HOA 634

REF: BIEN HOA 631

1. TAY NINH. THROUGH THE MORNING OF DEC 13, GVN FORCES HAVE
REMAINED UNABLE TO RESUPPLY THE TOP OF BA DEN MOUNTAIN AND
EVACUATE WOUNDED. AN EARLIER REPORT THAT FIVE CHINOOK MISSIONS
HAD REACHED THE MOUNTAINTOP BASE WERE INCORRECT.

2. TWO MORE CULVERTS WERE BLOWN DURING THE NIGHT OF DEC 12-13
ON ROUTE 22 SOUTH OF TAY NINH, ONE AT ABOUT XT315352 (50 PERCENT
DAMAMGED, OPEN ONLY TO HONDA TRAFFIC THE MORNING OF DEC 12), AND ONE
AT ABOUT XT280362 (20 PERCENT DAMAGED, OPEN FOR ONE-WAY TRAFFIC
ONLY).

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3. AT ABOUT 1800 HOURS DEC 12 THE NVA/VC HIT THE RELIEF COLUMN

ENROUTE TO SUOI DA (2ND BATTALION, 46TH REGT, ACCOMPANIED BY 313 RF BATTALION ELEMENTS) JUST NORTH OF PHOUC HOI VILLAGE ABOUT XT3155, HALTING THE PROGRESS OF THE ARVN BATTALION TOWARD SUOI DA AND INFLICTING SUBSTANTIAL CASUALTIES ON THE RF BATTALION.

4. TAY NINH SECTOR HAS RECEIVED UNCONFIRMED REPORTS OF FOUR TANKS, FOUR OTHER TRACKED VEHICLES, AND ABOUT 1,000 TROOPS ON TL-4 WEST OF BA DEN MOUNTAIN AT XT2358 AND OF TWELVE PT-76 TANKS A FEW KMS TO THE WEST AT ABOUT XT2158--BOTH LOCATIONS ABOUT 7-8 KMS NORTH OF TAY NINH CITY.

5. HOAI DUC. DURING THE NIGHT OF DEC 12-13 THE NVA/VC SUSPENDED GROUND ASSAULTS AGAINST TANH LINH DISTRICT TOWN BUT CARRIED OUT ABF'S. COMMUNIST PRESSURE WAS MAINTAINED AGAINST HOAI DUC DISTRICT TOWN AND SEVERAL OUTPOSTS OF ROUTE 333 BETWEEN HOAI DUC AND TANH LINH. TWO BATTALIONS OF THE 48TH REGT, 18TH ARVN DIV, AND ONE BATTALION OF 7TH RANGERS REMAIN SOUTH OF HOAI DUC ON ROUTE 333 NEAR GIA RAY (XT625125).
SIGNED PETERS UNQUOTE MARTIN

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